

illegal dumping. And it is not an outright ban, it is a 90-day ban, and it is the only thing that will stop this hemorrhaging. If the wound is open and one is hemorrhaging, one must stop the hemorrhaging. That is the bottom line.

This administration and no administration in the last 25 years will support import quotas. So what will it be? Voluntary restraint agreements? Side-bar agreements? Unbelievable to me.

One other aspect of this thing that really bothers me, and it should bother my good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), whose voice is needed on this issue, and that is the White House wants to give some tax relief to American steel companies. Now, I think that is great, and I would like to see some relief for our industry. But quite frankly, I have to oppose this, because that tax relief will be coming from American taxpayers, many of them laid off and fired steelworkers, downsized, whose taxes are going to go to help American industry that is being ripped off by foreign ingrates. Beam me up here. Is there any balsam left? We give foreign aid to Brazil and Russia. We give open markets to South Korea and Japan, and they kick us right in the crotch, and that is the bottom line.

I am hoping this House schedules for debate a 90-day temporary ban, and quite frankly, Scarlet, I do not give a damn what the final agreement is that is worked out after that ban. Because I guarantee my colleagues this: As soon as the shock waves come from that ban, they will all be sitting at the table and they will be machinating those pencils and within 7 days this problem will be worked out. I am absolutely convinced of that.

Mr. Speaker, before I close, it is not only the steel industry. Farmers are getting as low as 7 cents a pound live weight for hogs in America. We are exporting 40,000 and importing a half a million hogs. Agriculture, steel, huge trade imbalances. A paper tiger stock market. No one is listening, no one is looking, and we are going to ask for more promises. I say it is time to stop the promises and promulgate some plan.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members that they should refrain from using profanity in the House Chamber.

BIENNIAL BUDGET AND CONCEALED WEAPONS RECIPROCITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of

what I consider to be two significant bills for the American people regarding the budget process here in Congress, and allowing law abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons outside of their home States.

The first bill I will be introducing is a companion bill to what has already been introduced by Senator DOMENICI to establish a biennial budget happening every two years and a biennial appropriation process. The Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act would fundamentally change how Washington and the Congress operates. It would be a change for the better in dealing with the Nation's fiscal matters. This bill would establish a two-year budget process and appropriations process for Congress.

The fundamental importance of this bill is that it removes politics from the budget process. The first session of Congress would be dedicated to passing a budget and the 13 appropriations bills. Establishing this method would free the Congress from the nastiest budget and appropriations fights during national election years.

I was greatly dismayed last year watching the outcome of the budget negotiations between the congressional leadership and the White House, where both sides agreed to spend as much of the budget surplus as they could. The administration was able to use, once again, the threat of a government shutdown in order to extract billions of dollars in extra spending for political gain. The American taxpayer deserves to be better treated than last year's cop-out on sticking to our budget priorities. I voted against that monster budget last year.

The second congressional session could then be dedicated for authorizing bills which are greatly needed and which are greatly bypassed, in our day and age, for general government oversight and for other important legislative priorities.

In addition, the second session would be used for any true, necessary emergency spending bills which would have to be dealt with in the appropriate spring months of an election year to avoid political manipulation. Since 1950, Congress has only twice met the fiscal year deadline for completion of all 13 individual appropriations bills. In the 22-year history of the Budget Act, Congress has met the statutory deadline to complete a budget resolution just three times.

A biennial budget would at least reduce the rushed atmosphere of budgeting and appropriating during an election process. In addition, Senator DOMENICI asked 50 Federal agencies about a biennial budget. Thirty-seven agencies supported the idea, and not one Federal agency opposed it. These agencies responded that this process would actually save the Federal Government money, because it would re-

duce the burden on their operations of having to annually seek budget authority and appropriations.

Senator DOMENICI introduced a similar bipartisan bill in the last Congress and enjoyed cosponsorship of 36 U.S. Senators, including Minority Leader DASCHLE, Senators FEINGOLD, MOYNIHAN, BREAUX and other Republican Senators, including MCCAIN, NICKLES, and ROTH. The current bill already has 26 Senate cosponsors, and it appears that it will sail through the Senate. Therefore, I urge my colleagues that have interest in this matter to work together and to consider this proposal and to be a cosponsor.

The second bill, Mr. Speaker, I will be introducing is my concealed weapons reciprocity bill that I had introduced in the 105th Congress, which was cosponsored by 75 Members of the House. My bill would allow the citizens of every State the right to carry a concealed weapon across State lines into any State or Territory of our Nation. My bill creates a national standard for the carrying of certain concealed firearms by nonresidents of those States.

Every citizen, in order to carry a concealed firearm across State lines, would have to be properly licensed for carrying a concealed weapon in their home State and would have to obey the concealed weapons laws of the State they are entering. If the State they are entering does not have a concealed weapons law, the national standard provisions in this legislation would dictate the rules in which a concealed weapon would have to be maintained. For instance, the national standard disallows the carrying of a concealed weapon in a school, police station or a bar serving alcoholic beverages.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, my legislation exempts qualified former and current law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

Mr. Speaker, again, these two pieces of legislation are very important. If Members of the House are interested in cosponsoring either of these bills, I urge that they contact my office.

KEN STARR'S MEDDLING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK) is recognized during morning hour debates for 3 minutes.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, even those of us who have come to be of low expectations regarding Kenneth Starr's behavior were astonished on Sunday when he, through his aides, interjected himself into the current proceedings on impeachment by announcing that he thinks he has the right to indict the President. Mr. Starr has a very unusual way of operating. He sets for himself a very low